

3 least one of a job period, group members, and resources allocated to the job to be
4 carried out by the group.

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2 *Rule 1.12f*
3 *§226* (NEW) The system according to claim 2, wherein the previously
4 defined information identifies for each job carried out by each group at least one of a
job period, group members, and resources allocated to the job to be carried out by
the group. *A*

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 and 25-32 are pending in this application. In the final Office Action mailed August 4, 1998, in the parent application (paper no. 11), claims 1-9 were finally rejected and an objection was entered against claims 10 and 16-18.

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the claims as originally filed by clarifying the same. Claims 25-32 are added herewith to define the invention alternately. These amendments and new claims add no new matter to the disclosure. Accordingly, entry of this Preliminary Amendment in the above-referenced continuation application is respectfully requested.

The above amendments to claim 1, for example, clarify in particular that the job monitor performs the operation of inhibiting access to the resources of a group from another group to which permission to use the resources is not allocated. By way of explanation, the job monitor monitors use of the resources based on permission information and non-permission information, which typically is provided through the resource manager. Permission to use resources is typically granted or denied based on predetermined information, which may be represented in a job definition form as recited in claim 2, for example. Enforcement of the allocation of resources (permission or non-permission) is achieved by the claimed invention through the interaction of the resource manager and the job monitor. It is respectfully submitted that a resource management system including this feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the system shown in the reference to Li.

As to claim 2, the above amendments further clarify that the claimed system may include a job storage storing a job definition form containing previously defined information indicating rights to use the resources. The job monitor can thus inhibit access to resources from groups to which the resources are not allocated according to the job definition form. In other words, the inhibiting operation of the job monitor ensures that resources of a group can be used by workers only as defined in the job definition form. It is respectfully submitted that Li neither discloses nor suggests a resource management system including this feature.

Conclusion

In accordance with the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that all objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. Further, it is submitted that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art, taken in any proper combination. There being no other objections or rejections, the application is in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining informalities to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such informalities.

If any fees are required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 2, 1999